

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed August 28, 2007. Claims 7-13 were included in the Amendment that Applicant mailed on June 19, 2007 and that appears to have been received and filed on June 20, 2007. Applicant here amends claim 7 as suggested in the Examiner's comment at page 7 of the Office Action and cancels claims 8-13, without prejudice to their being filed in a divisional application.

In response to the objection to the drawings filed June 21, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(u)(i) because Figures 3a and 3b were not preceded by an Arabic numeral, Applicant resubmits the new Replacement Sheet with those drawing Figures with the Arabic numeral recitation "Fig. 3" preceding both the a and b Figures, and eliminating the reference to "Fig. 3" at the top of that page, as redundant.

Applicant submits a verified English translation of Applicant's priority claim Japanese Application No. 2004-194381. The Japanese application had a filing date in Japan of June 30, 2004, from which date Applicant claimed priority. Applicant submits the translation of the priority application in support of its claim for priority from this Japanese application. MPEP 201.15. Applicant has not supplied the drawings from the priority application along with the translation because the Examiner has the previously filed Japanese priority application which can be matched with the submitted translation.

Applicant does not waive the priority claim from the other Japanese application, but relies upon Japanese Application No. 2004-194381 to predate a prior art reference relied upon in the present Final Office Action being responded to.

In the Office Action, the Examiner comments on the prior art in the second paragraph at page 2 of the Office Action and again in the rejection of claim 7 starting at page 4. The rejection in part relies upon Japanese Patent 2004-204801, which was published July 22, 2004. It is noted that Applicant's translated Japanese priority Application No. 2004-194381 was filed in Japan June 30, 2004, and therefore predates the publication date of the Japanese reference relied upon. Pursuant to MPEP 201.15, that is sufficient to eliminate the Japanese patent reference.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over four prior art references noted at the bottom of page 4 of the Office Action. One is Japanese patent No. 2004-204801. As suggested

in the Office Action, Applicant has submitted the priority document that predates the publication of the Japanese reference and thereby has removed the Japanese reference as a prior art publication. In view of the filing herein, the rejection of claim 7 has been rendered moot.

In the Examiner's comment at page 7 of the Office Action, for the Applicant to place the application in condition for allowance, Applicant should amend claim 7 to recite that each of the tilted ends gradually taper in a vertical direction on the main shaft and to provide a certified (verified) English translation of the priority document. Applicant has complied with both of these requirements, as well as canceling non-elected claims 8-13.

Applicant has complied with every requirement stated in this final Office Action, has retained claim 7, has amended the drawings, and has submitted a verified translation of a Japanese priority document that predates publication of the one Japanese reference. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment herein is requested, since it complies with the requirements of the Office Action, adds no new matter and should not require a new search.

Allowance of claim 7 is requested therefore.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 21, 2007:

Robert C. Faber

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature

November 21, 2007

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Faber

Registration No.:24,322

OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP

1180 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036-8403

Telephone: (212) 382-0700

RCF:mjw